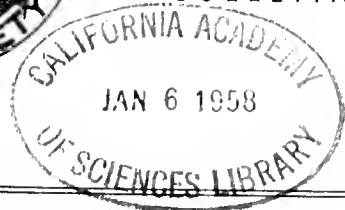


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THE  
MONTHLY



GULL  
BULLETIN



Volume 40

Berkeley, California, January, 1958

Number 1

## OCTOBER TRIP TO GOLDEN GATE PARK

About 35 members and guests enjoyed a delightful, brisk morning birding in Golden Gate Park on Saturday, October 26th. Several members dashed out to the Cliff House while the light was right to pick up a few additional species. The highlight of the day was an American Redstart, flitting in its typical butterfly-like fashion, high in the pines and eucalyptus trees.

The heavy migration of many species was over, and some of the late migrants and winter visitants were still absent, but even at this apparent "in between time" the following 61 species were noted: Loon, species ?; Grebe—Eared, Western and Pied-billed; Brown Pelican; Cormorant—Double-crested, Brandt's and Pelagic; Mallards; American Widgeon; Pintail; Shoveller; Ring-necked Duck; Surf Scoter; Ruddy Duck; Kestrel; California Quail; Virginia Rail; American Coot; Surf-bird; Black Turnstone; Sanderling; Gull—Glaucous-winged, Western, Herring, California, Ring-billed and Heermann's; Mourning Dove; Anna's Hummingbird; Red-shafted Flicker; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Downy Woodpecker; Black Phoebe; Chestnut-backed Chickadee; Common Bush-Tit; Red-breasted Nuthatch; Brown Creeper; Wren—Winter and Long-billed Marsh; American Robin; Varied Thrush; Hermit Thrush; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Hutton's Vireo; Audubon's Warbler; Townsend's Warbler; Yellow-throat; American Redstart; House Sparrow; Western Meadowlark; Brewer's Blackbird; House Finch; Pine Siskin; Lesser Goldfinch; Rufous-sided (Spotted) Towhee; Oregon Junco; Sparrow—White crowned, Golden-crowned, Fox and Song.

— FLORENCE PLYMELL, *Leader*.

— LEE STALLCUP, *Historian*.

## NOVEMBER TRIP TO GAME REFUGES

This two-day trip on the weekend of November 9—10 proved to be exceptionally fine. Not only were there great numbers of birds, but a fine turnout of approximately seventy people, a few of them from Sacramento. The weather was fair on Saturday. It rained very lightly Sunday morning from about 4 to 6 a.m., then turned sunny, with the most spectacular cloud formations all day. Skeins of geese and ducks always look better against some towering cumuli.

Before arriving at the Grey Lodge State Game Refuge a Lewis Woodpecker was seen near Sycamore and a White-tailed Kite west of Live Oak.

A Blue Goose was seen by a few people and Ross Geese were easily picked out of the flocks of Snow Geese. They were observed several times on the ground and at least once flying with Snow Geese overhead.

A group of approximately 300 Sandhill Cranes were seen, some of them close enough so the red color on the head could be distinguished.

On Saturday evening about 33 birders dined together at the Blue Gum Restaurant north of Willows.

There were around a million and a half ducks and geese on the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge when we were there. This we learned from Eugene Kridler, Refuge Biologist, who gave us an informative talk on numbers of birds, the types of crops raised on the Refuge as food for wintering waterfowl, etc.

Mr. Kridler then accompanied the 22-car caravan out on the Refuge and besides driving the usual "visitors' circle" we were permitted to unlock gates and drive through the half of the Refuge which lies to the south of the Norman Road.

The following 100 species were observed: Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Common Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, Whistling Swan, Canada Goose, White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Blue Goose, Ross' Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Shoveller, American Widgeon, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Canvasback, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, American Kestrel, California Quail, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane, Virginia Rail, Sora Rail, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Killdeer, Common Snipe, Long-billed Curlew, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, American Avocet, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Barn Owl, Burrowing Owl, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Lewis' Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Scrub Jay, Yellow-billed Magpie, Crow, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Robin,

Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Western Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Audubon's Warbler, Yellow-throat, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Leader and Historian*.

## NOVEMBER TRIP TO ORINDA

About 25 participated in the field trip to Orinda and vicinity on Saturday, Novmber 23, on a fine, clear day. As usual at this time of year, Cascade Lake yielded Hooded Mergansers—one male and 5 females. The winding road along San Pablo Reservoir is still open, but bird-watching is improved because through traffic now takes the new higher-level road. The upper part of the reservoir is becoming more difficult to observe due to the increase in height of the planted trees. Gulls and Canada Geese were present in hundreds, with a fair number of ducks, also. Two Golden Eagles were seen soaring over the hills to the east of the reservoir, and later one of them flew low over the water, affording excellent views.

The following 52 species were observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, American Widgeon, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Shoveller, Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Sparrow Hawk, California Quail, Coot, Killdeer, Glaucous-winged Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, Plain Titmouse, Bush-Tit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Wren-Tit, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Robin, Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Western Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Audubon's Warbler, House Sparrow, Purple Finch, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Brown Towhee, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

— A. LAURENCE CURL, *Leader and Historian*.

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Golden Gate Audubon Society: from Berkeley, Miss Nellie Foster, Miss Ellen J. Cornish, Mrs. Pauline V. Monroe and Mrs. Frances Danow; from Oakland, Miss Edith A. Newton; from Piedmont, Mr. A. Leslie Oliver.

— JEAN L. DUNHAM, M.D., *Membership Chairman*.

## CHANGE IN EDITORIAL STAFF

Mrs. Lucile Smith will be the new Editor of *The Gull* beginning with the February issue. Mrs. Virginia Thompson will continue to be Field Trips Editor. Please send all copy (other than field trip reports) to Mrs. Smith, 1512 Grand Avenue, Piedmont (OLympic 4-2335) by the *15th of the month*. Reports of field trips should be sent to Mrs. Thompson, Field Trips Editor, whose address is 22501 Bayview Avenue, Hayward (LUcerne 1-1501) by the *5th of the month*.

The Editor wishes to express appreciation for the fine cooperation received from members who have contributed articles during her period of office. Special appreciation is expressed to Mrs. Hermine Van Gelder and Mrs. Virginia Thompson, members of the editorial staff.

## SPECIAL REPORT

With this issue of *The Gull* we are pleased to enclose for our members a copy of a study completed by Charles Hines during his tenure as Camp Assistant in 1956 and 1957 at the Audubon Camp of California. Young men selected to be Camp Assistants because of their interest in conservation and natural history are chosen from an ever-growing list of applicants who are eager to spend a summer amid such surroundings as are present at Sugar Bowl Lodge. Although Camp Assistants are responsible for doing the many jobs (dishwashing, housekeeping, general maintenance) that abound in a camp and receive no compensation, definite plans are arranged to enable them to participate in both field trips and regular camp programs. In addition, each Camp Assistant can work with one or more of the Program Staff members on a special project of his choosing. The result of such an effort is Charles' paper on "Common Birds of the Sugar Bowl Area." Because of the length of his study we are able to give only a listing of the birds included, omitting identifying information—feeding habits, voice note, where found, and habitat—which Charles carefully compiled. However, the complete guide will be mimeographed and placed in the camp library for the information and reference of all future campers. The staff of the Audubon Camp of California wishes to congratulate Charles (known to us as "57") for the contribution his work will make to the resources of the camp library.

— WILLIAM N. GOODALL, *Director,*  
*Audubon Camp of California.*

## ANNUAL MEETING — JANUARY 9

The 483rd meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held Thursday, January 9, in Oakland. This will be the Annual Meeting. Everyone is urged to attend.

## Order of Events

- 6 p.m. Dinner at the Lakeside Inn, near the duck-feeding area on Lake Merritt. Reasonable prices.
- 7 p.m. Business meeting — Natural Science Center.  
Reports of Officers and Chairmen. Election of officers.
- 8 p.m. Program. Dr. Harold C. Bryant will give an illustrated talk on "The Student Conservation Program." This project, sponsored by the National Parks Association, took place at Ramshorn Ranch in the Grand Tetons and was supervised by Dr. Bryant.
- 9 p.m. Refreshments.

— BONNIE SMITH, *Program Chairman*.

## GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY

## Slate of Officers for 1958

<i>President</i> .....	Paul Covell
<i>Vice President</i> .....	Howard Cogswell
<i>Vice President and Membership Chairman</i> .....	Roberta Long
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Margaret Milwain
<i>Recording Secretary</i> .....	Pat Triggs
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> .....	Kathleen Hoover
<i>Director</i> .....	A. D. Williams
<i>Director (unexpired term)</i> .....	Myra Browns
<i>Director (unexpired term)</i> .....	Carl Fox
<i>Distribution Chairman</i> .....	Alice Leet
<i>Editor</i> .....	Lucile Smith
<i>Field Trips Chairman</i> .....	Harold Peterson
<i>Program Chairman</i> .....	Bonnie Smith

*Respectfully submitted.. by the  
Nominating Committee*

BONNIE SMITH, *Chairman*

DOROTHY SCOTT

ETHEL RICHARDSON

## FIELD TRIPS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 12th, TOMALES BAY AND TOMALES POINT (if the weather and road conditions are in our favor). Seldom have we been disappointed or turned back by either of these factors. This trip last year attracted 70 enthusiastic observers, who, in spite of a dense but invigorating fog blanket, were able to track down 108 species. Long lines of Scoters, winging in and out of the mists, or Harlequins cavorting in a swirling, frothy surf, are pictures never erased from the soul of one who loves the earth and its natural treasures. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Inverness. Bring lunch, warm clothing, binoculars, telescopes and interested friends. Co-leaders, Mrs. Grace Miller, Normandy 9-1289 (Inverness) and Richard Stallcup, LOckhaven 9-3185 (Oakland).

Saturday, January 25th, BERKELEY AQUATIC PARK. Here, between a high-speed freeway and the edge of a bustling, odoriferous industrial area, ducks, herons and sandpipers go about their business, indifferent or oblivious to the great American frenzy. This is an excellent, close-to-home small park, where 30 to 50 colorful and interesting species may be observed at close range. The beginner will find few spots better suited for the introduction to identification. The veteran observer, who has little to learn, may learn that little. Meet at 9:00 a.m. Enter the park from the foot of Bancroft Way, turn left, and proceed to the south end of the park drive. Bring binoculars, telescopes, lunch and interested friends. Leader, Arthur Myer, TH 5-3080 (Berkeley).

— LEE STALLCUP, *Field Trips Chairman*, LO 9-3185 (Oakland).

ATTENTION! CIRCLE and SAVE these dates for the REUNION of Audubon Campers (1948 through 1957), their families and friends. For Northern California, SUNDAY, April 20; for Southern California, SUNDAY, April 27. Full information and details later.

## GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

President.....	Paul F. Covel.....	2860 Delaware Street, Oakland 2, KE 6-4120
Vice President.....	Howard L. Cogswell.....	Box 9486, Mills College, Oakland 13, NE 6-1573
Vice President.....	Harold G. Peterson.....	3548 - 65th Avenue, Oakland 5, LO 8-7534
Treasurer.....	Miss Margaret J. Milwain.....	6926 Sayre Drive, Oakland 11, AN 1-9430
Recording Secretary.....	Mrs. Roberta J. Long.....	45 Clarendon Avenue, San Francisco 14, LO 4-7767
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mrs. Glenn E. Hoover.....	4488 Reinhardt Drive, Oakland 19, AN 1-3313
Director.....	Dr. Albert Boles.....	854 Longridge Road, Oakland 10, GL 1-6267
Director.....	Mrs. George C. Browne.....	2435 Ivy Drive, Oakland 6, TW 3-5469
Director.....	Carl Fox.....	616 The Alameda, Berkeley, LA 5-7000
Distribution Chairman.....	Miss Alice Leet.....	1050 Spruce Street, Berkeley 7, LA 4-2488
Membership Chairman.....	Dr. Jean L. Dunham.....	4607 Harbord Drive, Oakland 18, OL 5-1591
Editor.....	Mrs. Lucile Smith.....	1512 Grand Avenue, Piedmont, OL 4-2335
Sanctuary Fund		
Chairman.....	Frank A. Scott.....	1508 La Loma Avenue, Berkeley 8, TH 1-0188

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, \$1.00 per year.

Visit the Pacific Coast Office of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY — 2426 Bancroft Way  
Berkeley 4, California — TH 8-4042

COMMON BIRDS OF THE SUGAR BOWL AREA  
(Audubon Camp of California)

by  
Charles Hines (Camp Assistant, 1956 & 1957)

INTRODUCTION

Birds form an important part of the program at the Audubon Camp of California. A part of the program is directed towards identification of some of the more common species, the rest towards understanding the bird's place in the "web of life"-- where they live and how they are adapted for living there. The birds listed below are the ones you are most likely to see as you walk through the forest, across the meadows or along the streams in the vicinity of Sugar Bowl Lodge. For further help, refer to Peterson's, Pough's or Hoffman's books as listed under references.

DESCRIPTION OF AREA

The area covered in this study deals with three major habitats to be found around the camp grounds. The forest of red fir, lodgepole pine and western white pine provides shelter, food and excellent nesting sites. The meadow in front of the Lodge provides food for the many ground birds as well as birds of prey which feed on the ground squirrels living in the meadow. The many varieties of plants provide food for the hummingbirds as well as some of the finches. The third and last major habitat is the stream-side. Here, along the creek, birds find food and nesting sites. The flow of the creek depends largely on the weather. When it is hot the snow melts faster and the stream runs full. The snowfall during the previous winter also has an important influence on the size of the creek. When the creek gets low it has an advantage for some of the ground-dwelling birds. They take advantage of the exposed, moist ground for feeding and they bathe in the quiet pools or slow-running water.

REFERENCES

Peterson, Roger Tory: A Field Guide to Western Birds; Boston, Houghton-Mifflin, 1941  
Hoffman, Ralph: Birds of the Pacific States; Boston, Houghton-Mifflin, 1927  
Pough, Richard: Audubon Western Bird Guide; Garden City, Doubleday, 1957

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I should like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. James E. Crouch who worked on the Camp Staff in 1955, 1956 and 1957. Without his extensive help, I would not have been able to complete this project.

LIST

Red-tailed Hawk	Brown Creeper
Golden Eagle	Dipper (Water Ouzel)
Mountain Quail	Rock Wren
Killdeer	Robin
Spotted Sandpiper	Hermit Thrush
California Gull	Mountain Bluebird
Common Nighthawk	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Rufous Hummingbird	Warbling Vireo
Calliope Hummingbird	Orange-crowned Warbler
Red-shafted Flicker (Ant-eating Woodpecker)	Audubon's Warbler
Yellow-bellied (Red-breasted) Sapsucker	Wilson's (Pileolated) Warbler
Hairy Woodpecker	Brewer's Blackbird
Western Wood Pewee	Western Tanager
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Cassin's Finch
Violet-green Swallow	Pine Grosbeak
Tree Swallow	Pine Siskin
Steller's (Long-crested) Jay	Green-tailed Towhee
Clark's Nutcracker (Clark's Crow)	Oregon (Sierra) Junco
Mountain Chickadee	White-crowned Sparrow
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Fox Sparrow